

**Minutes of the Town Council Meeting  
held on Monday 5 December 2022 at 7.00pm**

**Present:** Cllr Campbell, Cllr Irven, Cllr Johnson, Cllr Murphy, Cllr Moss, Cllr Summers, Cllr Terrett, Cllr Ward, Cllr Westcott and Cllr Whetlor

**In attendance:** Sarah Reed, Town Clerk,

- 22/73** To formally resolve to suspend standing order 3(x) - to allow this meeting to take place on the first Monday of the month due to the Christmas period – Cllr Campbell proposed that **'standing order 3(x) is invoked to allow this meeting to take place on the first Monday of the month due to the Christmas period'**. Seconded by Cllr Whetlor.
- 22/74** To receive Apologies for Absence (LGA 1972, section 85 (1)- Cllr Campbell proposed that **'apologies from Cllrs Ellwood and Richards are accepted'**. Seconded by Cllr Terrett. Carried.  
Apologies from County Cllr Davies and District Cllr Aldridge were noted for the record, together with County Cllr Woods late arrival due to the attendance at another meeting.
- 22/75** To receive any **Declaration of Interests** under Watchet Town Council's Code of Conduct (adopted on 9 July 2012) issued in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 and the Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012 Si No: 1464

Name	Minute No:	Description of Interest	Personal / Prejudicial	Action Taken
Cllr Whetlor	All items	Watchet Ward member	Personal	Cllrs remained in the meeting and took part in the discussion and voting.
Cllrs Irven & Murphy	22/81a	Members of FOSL and WLF	Personal	

- 22/76** **Town Council Minutes** - To confirm and sign the Minutes of the Council meeting held on the 14 November 2022 - (LGA 1972, Sch 12 Para 41 (1))  
Cllr Whetlor proposed that **'The minutes of the Council meeting held on 14 November 2022 are approved as a true and correct record.'** Seconded by Cllr Summers. Carried with 9 votes for and 1 abstention.

- 22/77** (i) **Chairman's Report:** – verbal
- Met 'Seeds of Hope' Charity organiser at their site at the community garden on the Memorial Ground. This was insightful and what the charity does was conveyed. They enquired about access to water other than water butts. Cllr Terrett as the Council representative on the War Memorial Ground Management Committee, stated that he would enquire about access to the pavilion.
- (i) **Clerks Report-update and recommendations:**
- CCTV – installation of camera 8 – no update
  - Update on complaint to WACET – members have been kept updated about the reasons why the F&S Committee did not award a grant to WACET for the 'Late Night Extravaganza' and that a letter was published in the WS Free Press from the Chair of WACET publicly berating the Council. You are also aware that the Council's response was published in last week's edition. A complaint has also been submitted to the WACET Committee asking them to address the inappropriate use of the WACET newsletter which is circulated to an 80+ membership by the WACET Chair as a vehicle to view his own personal views, and comments about fellow councillors.



- The Clerk informed Council that the PCSO Sue Thompson was retiring in December and circulated a card for signing. The Clerk wished it noted that £40 from the Clerk's emergency budget would be used to order a bouquet as she is coming into the Council office on 14 December 2022.
- Unfortunately, the funding application to the National Grid for £10,000 towards fuel poverty has been unsuccessful.

**22/78 Reports from the Principal Authority Members:**

- A report from County Cllr Davies and Woods was circulated prior to the meeting and was noted by members. A paper supplied by County Cllr Davies relating to the Elections Act 2022 was tabled for members information.
- District Cllr Whetlor gave a brief verbal report on the newly formed Taunton Council, which was now inaugurated, and its office will be situated in Deane House.

**Questions from the floor:** None

**22/79 Reports from Representatives of Outside Organisations, Verbal – no Decisions**

- Cllr Johnson as the Council representative for **Citizens Advice WS** gave a verbal report informing members that he was unable to attend the recent AGM due to unforeseen personal circumstances, but he will circulate any relevant paperwork to the Clerk.
- Cllr Murphy as the Council representative for **Watchet Coastal Community Team (WCCT)** gave a short verbal report informing members that at the recent AGM, 2 co-opted members were re-elected, and those members in attendance supported the Boards recommendation not to re-elect a former director back onto the Board. Unfortunately, there has been further vandalism to the electric car charging point located on the Esplanade, this has deemed the point unusable which seriously affects the vulnerable people in the community with mobility problems. This is an abhorrent act and has been reported to the Police.

Cllr Irven interjected at this point as a director on the organisation and stated that WCCT are currently being advised how best to repair the charging point, and how further protection measures can be assessed and potentially implemented.

**22/80 Verbal reports from sub-committees, working groups, and other outside organisations, where Watchet Town Council does not have representation:** (Notification to the Clerk prior to the meeting) – no notifications given.

**22/81 Reports from Working Groups:** *any relevant paperwork will be issued prior to the meeting*

- Watchet Library** – nothing to report as no meeting had been held.
- Wheeled Park** – In the absence of Cllr Ellwood, the Clerk referred to a report containing the proposed designs to be presented at an online public consultation event, circulated to members prior to the meeting, and read out the following:

Following Councillor's decision to allocate a budget of up to £5,000 for essential searches and surveys, a topographical survey has now been carried out at a cost of £1,500 (this price was quoted in the tender application and is appropriate for the area size). Based on feedback from stakeholders in the previous consultation session, Maverick has come up with a second iteration of designs for the facility. Consultation with those who will be using the facility is at the core of this design phase, so Maverick will present this second concept design to stakeholders in an online session when their feedback will be welcomed. Any Councillors wishing to attend the next consultation session, date TBC, must please notify the Deputy Clerk so email addresses can be added to the online invitation.

Members noted the report and the £1,500 spend on the topographical survey.

**22/82 Health & Wellbeing Project – SALC:**

- To appoint a working group to engage with community groups to formulate a response to the Survey – to be submitted by the 23 December 2023 – members agreed that the working group will comprise of 3 members to join Cllr Campbell who is the Councils appointed 'Safeguarding and Wellbeing Officer'

Cllr Murphy proposed '**Cllr Summers as a member of the working group**'. Seconded by Cllr Whetlor. Carried.

Cllr Moss proposed '**Cllr Whetlor as a member of the working group**'. Seconded by Cllr Campbell. Carried.

Cllr Whetlor proposed '**Cllr Ward as a member of the working group, with Cllr Moss as a back up member if Cllr Ward has work commitments and can't attend a meeting**'. Seconded by Cllr Terrett. Carried.

- Schedule a meeting time and date – **Tuesday 13 December 2022 @ 12.30pm** was agreed.



County Cllr Woods arrived at the meeting at 7.35pm. At this point the Chair asked members if there were any questions relating to the circulated report from County Cllr Woods. There were no questions or comments.

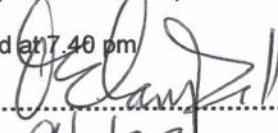
**22/83** **Matters of Correspondence for Report** - Correspondence is addressed daily and filed – the Clerk referred to a letter from a resident complaining to SW&T Council regarding access to the shoppers permit facility being online only, and this was discriminatory towards those who do not have computer literacy or access to a computer. The Clerk concluded that a complaint has been registered with customer services (SW&T) and this matter forwarded onto District Cllr Whetlor, Watchet ward member.

**22/84** **Accounts for payment** – to approve the November schedule for payment in December. Cllr Johnson proposed that **'the Payment Schedule is approved, and the invoices duly paid.'** Seconded by Cllr Whetlor. Carried.

**22/85** To note **Matters for the next meeting** – no discussion or decisions made

- Liaise with the Clerk
- To approve the Precept for 2023-24

Meeting closed at 7.40 pm

Signed: ..... 

Dated: ..... 